

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of providing a broadcast or multicast service to a terminal device in a data network, said method comprising the steps of:
  - a) broadcasting a service notification from said data network in response to a network-initiated creation of a service context; and  
switching a connection state of said terminal device to a dedicated channel state in which a dedicated physical channel is allocated to said terminal device, after reception of configuration parameters for said broadcast or multicast service from a related control channel.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said broadcast or multicast service is an MBMS service.
3. A method according to claim 1, wherein said notification triggers said terminal device to listen to said related control channel.
4. A method according to claim 1, wherein said notification allows said terminal device not to respond to the received service indication.
5. A method according to claim 1, wherein said switching is performed after reception of said configuration parameters from said related control channel.
6. A method according to claim 5, wherein said state switching is ordered by a network element based on said configuration parameters.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein said state switching order is issued to said terminal device and said network element derives the current state of said terminal device based on said state switching order.

8. A method according to claim 1, wherein said connection state is switched to said dedicated channel state from a paging channel state.

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein said connection state is switched from a CELL-PCH state to a CELL-DCH of a UMTS radio access network.

10. A method according to claim 1, wherein said service notification caused by a network-initiated activation of a service data transmission.

11. A system for providing a broadcast or multicast service to a terminal device in a data network, said system comprising:

broadcasting means for broadcasting a service notification from said data network as a result of a network-initiated creation of a service context; and

network means for switching a connection state of said terminal device to a dedicated channel state in which a dedicated physical channel is allocated to said terminal device, after reception of configuration parameters for said broadcast or multicast service from a related control channel.

12. A system according to claim 11, wherein said broadcasting means is a GGSN.

13. A system according to claim 11, wherein said network means is a radio access network.

14. A system according to claim 11, wherein said network means is arranged to switch said connection state to said dedicated channel state from a paging channel state in which a connection to said terminal device is only possible via a paging channel and after reception of said notification via said related control channel.

15. A system according to claim 11, wherein said network means is arranged to switch said connection state from a CELL-PCH state to a CELL-DCH of a UMTS radio access network.